

Applicant:	Kabushiki Kaisha Toshiba
Application No.:	2004100039385
Date of Notification:	February 10, 2006
Title of Invention:	Semiconductor apparatus, manufacturing method thereof, and test method therefor

Notification of the First Office Action

1. ☐ The applicant has requested examination as to substance on and examination has been carried out on the above-identified patent application for the invention under Article 35(1) of the Patent Law of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as "the Patent Law").

2. ☐ The applicant claimed priority/priorities based on the application(s):
filed in Japan on April 18, 2003.

☐ The applicant has provided the priority documents certified by the Patent Office where the priority application(s) was/were filed.

4. ☐ Examination as to substance was directed to the initial application documents as filed.

5. ☐ This Notification is issued with consideration of the search results.

☐ Below is/are the reference document(s) cited in this Office Action (the reference number(s) will be used throughout the examination procedure):

No.	Number(s) or Title(s) of Reference(s)	Date of Publication (or the filing of conflicting

		application)
1	US5321277A	1994-6-14

6. Conclusions of the Action:

☐ On the Claims:

☐ Claim(s) 1, 3-4, 12, and 14-15 does/do not possess the novelty as required by Article 22 paragraph 2 of the Patent Law.

7. In view of the conclusions set forth above, the Examiner is of the opinion that:

☐ The applicant should expound in the response reasons why the application is patentable and make amendments to the application where there are deficiencies as pointed out in the text portion of the Notification, otherwise, the application will not be allowed.

8. The following should be taken into consideration by the applicant in making the response:

- (1) Under Article 37 of the Patent Law, the applicant should respond to the office action within 4 months counting from the date of receipt of the Notification. If, without any justified reason, the time limit is not met, the application shall be deemed to have been withdrawn.
- (2) Any amendments to the application should be in conformity with the provisions of Article 33 of the Patent Law. Substitution pages should be in duplicate and the format of the substitution should be in conformity with the relevant provision contained in "The Examination Guidelines".
- (3) The response to the Notification and/or revision of the application

should be mailed to or handed over to the "Reception Division" of the Patent Office, and documents not mailed or handed over to the Reception Divisions have no legal effect.

(4) Without an appointment, the applicant and/or his agent shall not interview with the Examiner in the Patent Office.

9. This Notification contains a text portion of 2 pages and the following attachments:

☐ 1 cited reference(s), totaling 8 pages.

The Main Text of the Notification of the Office Action

Application No.: 200410003938.5

As described in the specification, the present invention relates to a semiconductor apparatus, a manufacturing method thereof, and a test method therefor. As a result of examination, the following reason for rejection has been issued.

1. Although the independent claim 1 claims a semiconductor apparatus, Reference 1 (refer to column 2, line 20, through column 3, line 20, and Fig. 1 of US5321277A) discloses a semiconductor apparatus, and in detail, the technical features are as follows. That is, the semiconductor apparatus of Reference 1 comprises a layer 13 (i.e., first layer), a plurality of scan units 11 (i.e., a plurality of test elements) provided in the layer 13, a second layer which is affixed to a layer 13 and is different from the first layer, and a plurality of pads 16 which are provided in the second layer and are electrically connected to the scan unit 11. As described above, Reference 1 already discloses all the technical features of claim 1. Thus, the technical idea disclosed in Reference 1 and the technical idea claimed in claim 1 pertain to the same technical field, and the same technical advantage can be obtained. Therefore, claim 1 does not have novelty, and fails to satisfy the provision under Section 22 (2) of the Patent Law.
2. Although the dependent claim 3 further limits claim 1, the additional technical features are already disclosed in Reference 1. Reference 1 discloses the technical feature that the scan units 11 are all formed of the same type of element. Therefore, claim 3 does not have novelty provided under Section 22 (2) of the Patent Law.

3. Although the dependent claim 4 further limits claim 1, the additional technical features are already disclosed in Reference 1. Reference 1 (Fig. 1) discloses the technical feature that the scan units 11 are arranged on the first row. Therefore, claim 4 does not have novelty provided by Section 22 (2) of the Patent Law.
4. Although the independent claim 12 claims a manufacturing method of a semiconductor apparatus, Reference 1 (refer to column 2, line 20, through column 3, line 20, and Fig. 1 of US5321277A) discloses a manufacturing method of a semiconductor apparatus, and in detail, the technical features are as follows. That is, the semiconductor apparatus comprises a layer 13 (i.e., first layer) having a plurality of scan units 11 (i.e., plurality of test elements) and a plurality of pads 16, and the method comprises the steps of forming a second layer which is different from the layer 13, and affixing the layer 13 to the second layer, and electrically connecting the scan units 11 to the pads 16. As described above, Reference 1 already discloses all the technical features of claim 12. The technical idea disclosed in Reference 1 and the technical idea claimed in claim 12 pertain to the same technical field, and the same technical advantage can be obtained. Therefore, claim 12 does not have novelty, and fails to satisfy the provision under Section 22 (2) of the Patent Law.
5. Although the dependent claim 14 further limits claim 12, Reference 1 already discloses the additional technical features. Reference 1 discloses the technical feature that the scan units 11 are all formed of the same type of element. Therefore, claim 14 does not have novelty provided under Section 22 (2) of the Patent Law.
6. Although the dependent claim 15 further limits claim 12, Reference 1 already discloses the additional technical features. Reference 1 (Fig. 1) discloses

the technical feature that the scan units 11 are arranged on the first row. Therefore, claim 15 does not have novelty provided under Section 22 (2) of the Patent Law.

Based on the above reasons, the application cannot be patented with the present description. The applicant must amend the description following the remarks in the notification of reasons for rejection, and overcome the rejection. Otherwise, the application will be rejected. All the amendments must comply with Article 33 of the Patent Law and must not exceed the scope of the original specification and the claims.